

Self-Determination Workgroup

Meeting Minutes

19 December 2005

Present: Paul Smith, Krissie Summerhays, Kenneth Ekong, Dustin Erikson, Angie Pinna, Lori Packard

Excused: Sara Brozovsky, Renee McCarvel, Chris Christiansen, Scott Roudabush

Everyone was welcomed, and thanked for their time and dedication during this busy holiday season. The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed, there were no comments.

Everyone came prepared with information and ideas on self-determination. We all worked off of one document, and made changes on that document. Everyone had feedback and input into this. The overview was reviewed and ideas discussed. The need to keep things interactive and varied was discussed. It was recommended that a movie clip be added. Lori is going to look for one. She believes that the Division may have something, or access to a movie that would fit this. It was also recommended that more background be included regarding why self-determination evolved and why it is important.

Different options for activities in this workshop were discussed. It was determined that all three activities will be included in the trainer's manual, leaving it open for the trainer to choose what fits their style best, or the dynamics of the group.

Additionally, when discussing barriers, and how to overcome them, or work around them, additional ideas were given, including adding scenarios related to finances, grieving and loss, physical limitations, and relationships.

One idea for an assignment associated with this module is to have each person do a self-assessment asking, "What have I don't that was creative or innovative this week?", or "What have I done to support someone that was a result of their interests, without controlling or dominating them?". Once these are identified, the goal is to continue doing the good things that are bringing positive changes for a person, or the challenge is to identify what someone's interests are, and determine how to help them work towards that, or experience those.

The amount of time this part of the workshop takes will vary depending on which activities are used, and group participation. Each module should be kept to 1.5-2 hours. The trainer will need to determine ahead of time what activities and other resources they want to use to best meet the needs of their group, as well as be able to make adjustments during the workshop. The timeframe is important so that people have time to gain information that is needed, but it does not interfere with other responsibilities, so that it remains beneficial to participants.

Each area will have an assignment associated with it. If the areas are done individually, the assignment associated with it should be completed. It is anticipated that when the workshop is done all at once (in two days) the participants will choose three or four assignments from among the areas. In this case there will also be a follow-up day to review the assignments, and discuss any obstacles in completing them and problem solve together, and review any successes as well. All assignments will be related to actual work with someone who has a disability, their family, or self-advocacy items, so that time is well used when doing these.

It was determined that subsequent modules will have brief piece that relates it to self-determination, or that reminds participants of the philosophy and purpose of self-determination, tying them all together.

It is still necessary to come up with an evaluation form for the workshop. This is important since we intend to use this to modify the curriculum and presentations to best meet the needs of our state.

Everyone took a module to work on. This will include doing the research related to this topic, and coming up with the outline/format for this part of the workshop. We will then bring them back to the group for feedback.

Thanks again to everyone for your time, efforts, ideas and feedback. (It may sound redundant, but you really are great; it needs to be said.)

Next Meeting is 30 January 2006